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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**RECEIVED**

DEC 23 2002

Application of: DIETMAIER et al.

Serial No.: 10/087,082

Art Unit: 1637

TECH CENTER 1600/2900

Filed: February 28, 2002

Examiner: MAUPIN, C.

For: METHOD OF PRIMER-EXTENSION

Attorney Docket No.: 1803-330-999

PREAMPLIFICATION PCR

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111**

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicants have carefully considered the Office Action mailed July 17, 2002, in connection with the above-captioned application. Applicants kindly request reconsideration of the claims in light of the amendments and remarks that follow. Filed herewith are:

1) Exhibit A ("Marked Up Version of Amended Paragraphs"); 2) Exhibit B ("Marked-Up Version of Amended Claims"); 3) Exhibit C ("Pending Claims After Entry of Instant Amendment"); and 4) a Petition for Extension of Time extending the period for responding by two months from October 17, 2002 to and including **December 17, 2002**.

**AMENDMENT**

**IN THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the paragraph at page 3, lines 4-5, and substitute therefor with the following paragraph: